

On the latter sheet, in Mr. Boott's handwriting, are the words, "This specimen is good *Novae Angliae*. The rest of this sheet seems to be *Emmonsii*. Did this specimen really come from the Blue Hills?"

It is evident from this label that Mr. Boott was himself in doubt whether the one specimen of *Novae Angliae* on this sheet had really been collected with the others, or had accidentally got in among them. Many of our local botanists have sought for *Carex Novae-Angliae*, both in Purgatory Swamp and in the Blue Hills, but without success, so far as I am aware.

On June 15, 1899, I found three very good specimens in one of the wooded valleys between Great Blue and Hancock Hill. I was particularly anxious to find *Carex Novae-Angliae*, and examined every one of the many tufts of *Carex varia* growing in the shade of the young oak and chestnut trees. Three plants were all I could find, after a careful search, and it is probable that it is not abundant, even in the localities where it grows. — GEO. G. KENNEDY.

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CAPSELLA IN JANUARY. — As an addition to our January flora, I should like to mention that I have several times this year observed the Shepherd's purse — *Capsella bursa-pastoris* — blossoming in Roxbury, the first observation being on January 6, and the latest on the 26th. It had a particularly favored situation, growing in the cracks of a sidewalk, and being protected by a stone wall which faced towards the south. The flowers did not open fully, but some of them, at least, have produced seed, of which, however, I have not yet tested the fertility. The ovaries appeared abnormally large. — JOHN MURDOCH, JR.

ROXBURY, MASS.

#### NOTES ON ECHINACEA.

M. L. FERNALD.

A HANDSOME purple cone-flower of the prairies has during the past decade crept gradually eastward: and now, like its near relative the yellow cone-flower (*Rudbeckia hirta*), is appearing in New England hayfields. Unlike the latter plant, however, the purple cone-flower has not yet become a troublesome weed, but is so far an unusual species in the northeastern states.